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Notice of Allowability	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/791,195		KIRBY ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	HUNG T. NGUYEN		2841	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/9/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20 and 43-58.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>2/23/04</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |



DISCUSSION OF THE PRIOR ART AND REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: in the examiner's opinion, the allowability of claim 1-20, 43-58 resides in the combination of elements which has been recited in independent claim 1

Regard claim 1: Benjamin (US 2001/0020545) discloses in figure 10A – 10J a contact pin assembly, comprising: a substantially planar substrate (1008), a first contact pin having a contact end on a first side of the substrate and formed in a place from a first portion of the substrate (1008); and first compliant coupling structure (1026 included 1020 rhodium, 1022 nickel and 1024 gold layer, page 37, paragraph 0636) to couple the first contact pin (a straight portion between 1050a and 1050 as show in figure 10E) in an orthogonally compliant orientation with the substantially planar substrate (1008).

There would be no motivation to make this modification as Benjamin teaches a first contact pin having a contact end on a first side of the substrate and formed in a place from a first portion of the substrate.

Regard claim 43: Benjamin discloses in figure 11A – 11F a contactor card, comprising: a substrate (1008) configured for attachment with a semiconductor tester and at least one contact pin assembly, including: a substantially planar substrate (explain in claim 1), a first contact pin formed in place from a first portion of the substrate; and first compliant coupling structure to couple the first contact pin in an orthogonally compliant orientation with the substrate.

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There would be no motivation to make this modification as Benjamin teaches a first contact pin having a contact end on a first side of the substrate and formed in a place from a first portion of the substrate.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Relevant Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Warren (US20050101037) teaches the compliant pin, Thomas teaches the compliant probe conductive tip (US 20040246010), Igor teaches device under test (DUT) (US 20050017750).

Conclusion

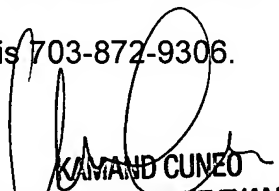
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-5983. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, KAMMIE CUNEO can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

HN

Hung Thanh Nguyen

9/29/2005


KAMMIE CUNEO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

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